

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 1. (Currently Amended) A method for matching a color with a corresponding color
2 in a defined color space, comprising:
3 scanning an object having the color to be matched to produce a color image data
4 signal representative of said object;
5 mapping said color image data signal to the defined color space to ascertain the
6 corresponding color;
7 determining an identity of the corresponding color; and
8 sending the identity of the corresponding color over a network to a website for
9 purchasing a product having the corresponding color.

1 2. (Cancelled)

1 3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the identity of the
2 corresponding color comprises a reference number, and wherein sending the identity of the
3 corresponding color comprises sending the reference number associated with said corresponding
4 color.

1 4. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising, using said reference
2 number to match a color with the color to be matched.

1 5. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising, displaying said reference
2 number.

1 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising, selecting a color region on
2 said object, the color region containing said color to be matched.

1 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising, selecting a color region of
2 said color image data signal, the color region containing said color to be matched.

1 8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said object comprises a plurality of
2 colors, and further comprising selecting one of said plurality of colors as said color to be
3 matched.

1 9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said object has a texture, and further
2 comprising processing said color image data signal to remove the influence of said texture from
3 the color image data signal.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said defined color space comprises the
2 Pantone Matching System.

1 11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein mapping said color image data signal
2 to the defined color space to ascertain the corresponding color comprises using a color look-up
3 table.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said color image data signal
2 comprises a plurality of pixels, each having a red tristimulus value, a green tristimulus value, and
3 a blue tristimulus value associated therewith, and wherein mapping said color image data signal
4 to the defined color space to ascertain the corresponding color further comprises:
5 computing an average red tristimulus value, an average green tristimulus value,
6 and an average blue tristimulus value from the red, green and blue tristimulus values of
7 one or more of said plurality of pixels; and
8 inputting the average red, green, and blue tristimulus values into said color
9 look-up table to obtain the corresponding color.

1 13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said color image data signal
2 comprises a plurality of pixels, each having a red tristimulus value, a green tristimulus value, and
3 a blue tristimulus value associated therewith, and wherein mapping said color image data signal
4 to the defined color space to ascertain the corresponding color further comprises:

5 inputting the red, green and blue tristimulus values of one or more of said
6 plurality of pixels into said color look-up table to obtain one or more reference numbers;
7 and

8 computing an average reference number from said one or more reference
9 numbers, the average reference number identifying said corresponding color.

1 14. (Previously Presented) A system for matching a color with a corresponding color
2 in a defined color space, comprising:

3 scanning apparatus, said scanning apparatus to scan an object having the color to
4 be matched, said scanner apparatus to produce a color image data signal representative of
5 said object; and

6 a computer operatively associated with said scanner apparatus, said computer to:
7 in response to user selection, select a color region of the color image data
8 signal representative of said object;

9 determine a dominant color from a plurality of colors in the selected color
10 region;

11 map a portion of said color image data signal corresponding to the
12 dominant color to the defined color space to ascertain an identity of the corresponding
13 color; and

14 present the identity of the corresponding color to a user.

1 15. – 17. (Cancelled)

1 18. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein said object has a texture, and further
2 comprising,

3 at least one computer readable storage device operatively associated with said
4 computer; and

5 computer readable program code for removing the influence of the texture from
6 said color image data signal, the computer readable program code being stored on said at
7 least one computer readable storage device.

1 19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 14, further comprising:

2 at least one computer readable storage device operatively associated with said
3 computer; and

4 a color look-up table stored on the at least one computer readable storage device,
5 said computer using the color look-up table when mapping said portion of the color
6 image data signal to the defined color space to ascertain the identity of the corresponding
7 color.

1 20. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein said defined color space comprises
2 the Pantone Matching System.

1 21. (Cancelled)

1 22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, further comprising randomly
2 selecting pixels in the selected color region, wherein mapping said color image data signal to the
3 defined color space comprises mapping a portion of the color image data signal corresponding to
4 the randomly selected pixels to the defined color space.

1 23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, further comprising determining a
2 dominant color in the selected color region using histograms representing respective colors,
3 wherein mapping said color image data signal to the defined color space
4 comprises mapping a portion of the color image data signal corresponding to the
5 determined dominant color to the defined color space.

1 24. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 14, wherein the computer determines
2 the dominant color in the selected color region using histograms representing the plurality of
3 colors.

1 25. (Cancelled)

1 26. (Previously Presented) An article comprising a storage device containing
2 program code that when executed cause a system to:
3 receive color image data representing an object scanned by a scanner, wherein the
4 object has a texture;
5 process the color image data to remove influence of the texture, the processing
6 producing a de-texturized color image data; and
7 map the de-texturized color image data to determine a corresponding color in a
8 defined color space,
9 wherein the program code when executed cause the system to send an identity of
10 the corresponding color over a network to a website.

1 27. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 26, wherein sending the identity of
2 the corresponding color to the website comprises sending the identity of the corresponding color
3 to a shopping website for purchasing a product having the corresponding color.

1 28. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
2 a storage device to store information representing a defined color space; and
3 a processor to:
4 receive color image data representing an object scanned by a scanner;
5 in response to user selection, select a color region of the color image data;
6 determine a dominant color from a plurality of colors in the selected color
7 region;
8 map a portion of the color image data corresponding to the dominant color
9 to a corresponding color in the defined color space to ascertain an identity of a
10 corresponding color; and
11 ~~determine an identity of the corresponding color; and~~
12 communicate the identity of the corresponding color to a website.

1 29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28, wherein the processor is adapted
2 to send the identity of the corresponding color to a shopping website in response to user selection
3 to enable a purchase of a product containing the corresponding color.

1 30. – 31. (Cancelled)

1 32. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~30~~ 28, wherein the processor is
2 adapted to determine ~~[[a]]~~ the dominant color in the selected color region by using histograms
3 representing respective colors, ~~and wherein the processor is adapted to map a portion of the color~~
4 ~~image data corresponding to the determined dominant color to the defined color space.~~